

TONOPAH DAILY BONANZA

Published every evening, Sunday excepted, by the Tonopah Bonanza Printing Co. Incorporated.

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Terms of Subscription by Mail for Daily Bonanza:
 One Year \$12.00
 Six Months \$7.00
 Three Months \$4.00
 One Month \$1.00
 Single Copies 5c

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Entered at the postoffice in Tonopah as second class matter.
 Official Paper for County of Nye and Town of Tonopah

THE GOVERNMENT DEBT

The United States government owes in round numbers \$24,000,000,000. It pays out in interest charges on this debt about \$1,000,000,000 each year. One of the first tasks which the government must undertake is to get out of debt rapidly or the people of the United States are going to keep on hunting for new business managers. A government cannot make money like a steel corporation or a railroad or a business house to pay off its debts. It must either raise more revenue, taxing the people more heavily, or it must take the revenues it has and instead of spending them in other ways must use them to clear off the debt. If the United States government does not thus get itself out of debt by the practice of rigid economy instead of heavier taxation, the American people will be as badly off as ever.

When the government cuts its debt it makes a double saving for itself and for the public. The government saves doubly because every time it slices something off the principal it lessens the amount of interest it has to pay on the remaining principal, and again because as the government's debt grows less, the government's credit grows stronger and it can borrow money at a lower rate of interest for refunding and other purposes. The people also save doubly because less money is required of them in direct taxes paid into the treasury and again because less money is taken out of them indirectly by high living costs which result, in part, from high taxes. The reduction of this enormous debt of the United States is one of the tasks with which the new administration must grapple, and the solution of it has a direct bearing upon every inhabitant of the United States. The government's debt, the government's credit and the government's taxes can and must be slashed all together.

GOLD MINERS MUST BE HELPED.

A great deal has been written for and against the McFadden bill, which proposes a tax of \$10 an ounce for all gold used for other than monetary purposes. From the sum thus collected the government would pay gold miners \$10 an ounce to help cover the greatly increased cost of production and thus encourage gold mining, which is now declining at a rapid rate—25 per cent in the past four years. Theoretical discussion from economic standpoints relative to this measure does not produce gold, and so far the McFadden bill seems to offer the only immediate relief for the miner. The McFadden bill does not change or interfere in any way with our standards of value of money or currency. It simply imposes a tax on gold used for manufacturing purposes, this in turn to be paid as a premium to producers of new gold.

No man can definitely operate a business at a loss, and if the gold standard is to remain stationary for monetary purposes some method must be devised which will enable a gold producer to operate at a profit under present conditions. The gold mining industry will be completely shut down unless constructive aid is provided without delay, in which event it will take years to develop a normal output of gold at a very much greater expense. To allow the gold mines of the United States to cave in and fill with water entails a waste of developed gold resources, which in a most critical hour of financial need may cause want. No argument can be made in favor of waste. The time to act is now, before the industry is shut down.

MORE SHIPS THAN EVER.

The new register book, just issued by Lloyd's, discloses the surprising fact that the shipping tonnage in world use, including all types, was, on July 1 last, greater by 8,225,000 gross tons than it was at the end of July, 1914, or, at the same of shipping tonnage of the antebellum period. The destruction of the U-boats has not only been replaced, but the replacement has been nearly doubled. There was an immense construction of shipping during the year that ended last June, and at the end of the last fiscal year the United States had in use 16,049,000 gross tons of commercial shipping. The British tonnage at the same time was 18,330,000 tons, and of all other countries 22,965,000 tons, thus representing a world tonnage of 57,344,000 tons.

In spite of this indicated enormous expansion of shipping available for commercial uses, there seems to be yet a shortage of ships in respect to the greatly expanded world commerce. Great Britain is still building ships with frantic speed, and though there has been considerable slow-down in the construction work of American yards, all the ways of the best equipped American plants are yet occupied by ships in process of construction.

The wooden ship is nearing the vanishing line. Of the 57,000,000 tons of commercial shipping now in use, 50,000,000 tons is of iron or steel construction. The United States has a greater number of wood ships of all classes than any other country. There are now more than 100 ships of the Denman type swinging in the James river below Richmond, which are as idle as painted ships upon painted oceans.

Every American will rejoice in the news that Christy Mathewson, probably the most famous baseball player of all time, is winning another battle. This time it is not against some opposing team and there is no deafening applause of raving fans, but it is a battle against disease. The whole sports-loving world was saddened last year when the news came that Mathewson had been stricken with tuberculosis, for he had always stood out as one of the leaders of clean sport in professional baseball and in his private affairs he also commanded the respect of all with whom he had dealings. Christy was the idol of thousands of Americans, both young and old, and the news of his winning fight against the dread white plague will cause much pleasure to his many followers.

It was a foregone conclusion, of course. But now that the expectation has been made a certainty the people of the United States can get back on the job with no doubts to bother them. What we need now is work, and more work.

SCHOOLS TEACH FRUIT CANNING

(By Associated Press)

PHILADELPHIA, Nov. 9.—The art of making Philadelphia scrapple, chow-chow, chili sauce and of preserving fruit is now taught here in the public schools.

Instructors in the domestic science department have asked pupils to bring part of their mothers' canning and preserving utensils to school. The youngsters are being taught the best methods of preserving.

Other innovations introduced in local schools in an effort to train girls for home-making are:

Little mothers' classes, under supervision of the Child Federation. Grocery stores in some schools to teach arithmetic and economy in buying.

Millinery and dressmaking in the girls' trade school. School canteens with domestic science classes.

In the little mothers' classes the pupils when they cannot borrow a real baby from one of the mothers in the neighborhood, practice on dolls as large as an average infant. They are taught how to wash and dress the baby and instructed in health rules for its care. Many of the small pupils in the congested districts of the city bring their own wards for the class to "mother."

CHINESE RAISE BIG RELIEF SUM

(Correspondence of Associated Press)

MANILA, P. I., Oct. 19.—The Chinese chamber of commerce of Manila has started a movement to raise approximately \$100,000 for the relief of the famine sufferers in the four provinces in China where crops have been a failure for two years.

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and \$20,000,000 people are in danger of starving.

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